

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM PLANNING FOR MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT- WORKSHEET 4

Site: Galápagos Marine Reserve			
Location: Galápagos Province, Ecuador.			
Theme: Monitoring impacts of ecotourism in the GMR			
Problem declaration/aspect: Breaking of the substrate by divers			
Level of actual impact: <input type="checkbox"/> X acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> close to unacceptable <input type="checkbox"/> unacceptable			
Projected level of impact: <input type="checkbox"/> X acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> close to unacceptable <input type="checkbox"/> unacceptable			
Is there information on the level of impact? If yes, explain:			
If not, do you know where to obtain this information? During the first 6 months we will collect and use baseline information			
	ACTIVIDAD 1	ACTIVIDAD 2	ACTIVIDAD 3
Description of the activity	To make onboard trip on cruises into the GMR and measure the frequency of damage to the substrate with evident and not-evident damage caused by divers, according to the conditions of current, visibility and use of resources by photographers. Significance of substrate damage determined in monitoring	Workshops with fisherman, tourism naturalists and tourism operators of the GMR every 6 months during 3 year span	Establish a baseline of the damage done by touching and without touching during the first six months of monitoring. Compare the results between consecutive years
Objective	In the GMR, the relative degree of damaging substrate by divers in a minimum of 20 trips is moderate, under alliance with tourism operators	GMR users are informed of the monitoring results and impacts caused by divers and are advised to inform the tourists of the impacts of touching the substrate and to help control in diminishing the frequency and impact of touching	The GMR is managed to diminish the frequency of damage due to touching in a progression over a period of 3 years.
Responsible person	Monitoring equipment	Monitoring equipment	Monitoring equipment
Results (short, mid and long-term)	Relative frequency is determined for touching damage and the conditions to which they are related in each of the 3 years	30% of the GMR users are trained within the first year, 60% in the 2nd year and 90% in the third year	Decrease the substrate breaking by 20% in the 1st year of monitoring; 40% in 2 years and 60% in 3 years
Products (short, mid and long-term)	A database is generated	Produce a proceedings book	Technical information is produced each

		from the workshops	semester along with a tri-annual report
Threshold of unacceptable impacts	10% of touching damage in the presence of very strong currents and 5% of touching damage in the absence of moderate currents	20% of the users attending the workshop do not do the damaging activity	A 15% reduction annually of breaking corals/substrate by divers
Stakeholder impacts	The reputation of the tourism operators is raised along with the environmental consciousness of keeping natural resources in a pristine state	Awareness building of the importance of monitoring for healthy habitats and the sustainability of tourism activities	Users count on base objectives to justify control of the tourists, using the principle of shared responsibility
Impacts on the community	N/A	N/A	N/A
Implementation partners	Tourist boat operators and locals	Naturalist guides, operators and fisherman	Charles Darwin Foundation
Resources for implementation	250,000	100,000	250,000
Performance indicators	Manage to maintain a minimum of 5—10% of touching damage in the sites, according to current conditions and visibility	Develop a meeting each semester with users during the 3 year-long project and to train a minimum of 80% of them by the end of the 3rd year	Maintain a reduction of touching impacts to a minimum of 15% per year
Time of implementation	3 years	3 years	3 years
Presented by: Galápagos National Park			
Advisor: Charles Darwin Foundation			